the Navy. Motivation drives are conducted in various colleges/institutions in order to widen the scope of target population.

In addition, the valiant image of the Armed Forces is consistently projected through the electronic and the print media. The Directorate of Public Relations of Ministry of Defence, regularly interacts with the media persons, while giving Defence related information and endeavours to ensure positive publicity of the same. Regular coverage of defence related events in the print and electronic media go a long way in creating awareness among the masses and motivating the youth to join the Armed Forces. Websites are also operative on the Internet providing career information on the three Services.

Inclusion of local M.Ps. and local M.L.As. as Ex-officio Members in Defence Cantonment Boards

4188. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would amend Defence Cantonment Act by including local M.Ps. and local M.L.As as *ex-officio* members of Cantonment Boards;

(b) whether Government would amend Defence Cantonment Act to provide direct elections to Vice-Presidents of Cantonment Boards;

(c) whether Government would amend Defence Cantonment Act to reserve 33 per cent of elective seats in all Defence Cantonment Boards to ladies; and

(d) whether Government would amend Defence Cantonment Act to increase the number of wards due to abnormal increase of population of Secunderabad Cantonment?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) A comprehensive Bill is proposed to be introduced to enact new legislation. The provision for inclusion of local MPs and MLAs, reservation for women, direct election of Vice President of the Cantonment Board and the need for increased representation due to population growth in Cantonments will be given due attention while framing the proposed legislation.

Utilisation of budgetary allocations

41B9. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased fo state: